

Athens blast injures Saudi diplomat

ATHENS (R) — A Saudi diplomat and his driver were injured Wednesday when a parked car exploded as they were driving past. The two men, First Secretary Jaffer Ghazi and his chauffeur Kostas Al Bostol, were treated for slight injuries in an Athens hospital. Two women were also hit by flying glass. Police said the car which blew up was rented a week ago by an Italian citizen and had been packed with explosives, possibly remote-controlled. Eyewitnesses said the explosion badly damaged several other cars in the vicinity, smashed windows and sent a pall of yellow smoke over the fashionable Athens suburb of Psychikon. Sources at the hospital said the men had entered on foot and were in no danger. The Saudi embassy declined to comment on the incident.

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Egypt rejects Israeli request to cut oil purchases

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Economic Minister Mustafa Kamel said Wednesday Egypt had turned down an Israeli request to allow it to reduce its purchases of Egyptian oil. In an interview with the weekly Al-Mussawwar magazine, the minister said: "We told Israel either it buys all the quantity specified in the peace treaty or it will not get a single barrel." "It has taken all the quantity," he added. According to the 1979 treaty Israel buys two million tonnes of Egyptian oil annually.

Israeli forces attacked near Sidon

BEIRUT (R) — Israeli forces came under grenade and gun attacks in two separate incidents Tuesday night near the South Lebanese port of Sidon, an Israeli military spokesman said Wednesday. The Palestinian news agency Wafa, monitored in Nicosia, said a number of Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded and two Israeli military vehicles destroyed in the attacks by the "Lebanese National Resistance Front."

Abu Ghazala arrives for talks in Rome

ROME (R) — Egypt's defence minister, Field Marshal Mohamed Abdel Halim Abu Ghazala, arrived Wednesday for a five-day official visit during which he will tour military and industrial installations. The main aim of the visit is to promote military cooperation between Egypt and Italy, according to an officer accompanying the minister.

Bahrain to revive dissolved parliament

KUWAIT (R) — Bahrain's foreign minister, Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, was quoted as saying Wednesday that Bahrain would soon revive its parliament, dissolved in 1975 after friction with the cabinet. The Kuwaiti daily Al-Siyassah quoted him as saying this would give the people a say in government.

Cyclone kills 50 in West Bengal

CALCUTTA (R) — A flash cyclone killed at least 50 people and injured 1,500 when it ripped through a coastal district in West Bengal, officials said Wednesday. More than 6,000 people were made homeless when the storm hit 21 villages Tuesday night in an area 40 kilometres from Calcutta. Officials said hundreds of mud houses were destroyed and trees and power poles uprooted during the four-minute storm.

Karamanlis to visit Cyprus this autumn

ATHENS (R) — Greek President Constantine Karamanlis has accepted an invitation by Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou to visit Cyprus this autumn, official sources said Wednesday. The president's trip will follow a visit to Cyprus last year by Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, which delighted Greek Cypriots but drew protests from Turkey, whose troops have occupied northern Cyprus since 1974.

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Arafat: PLO ready to resume talks with Jordan

STOCKHOLM (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat said Wednesday he was ready to resume talks with Jordan on President Reagan's Middle East peace plan.

He told reporters after meeting Nordic Social Democratic leaders here that the PLO leadership would hold a full meeting within the next 24 hours on the interrupted talks, probably in Tunisia.

He also said a PLO envoy was already in Amman and another would arrive Thursday to liaise with Jordanian officials.

Mr. Arafat did not identify the envoys. PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidki Al Dajani is currently in Amman to attend a conference of the Amman-based Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al-Bait Foundation). Another Executive Committee member, Khaled Al Hassan, made a brief stopover in Amman Tuesday, on his way back from Baghdad to Damascus.

The deputy commander of the PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir, popularly known as Abu Jihad, is also in Amman to attend the funeral of the slain Palestinian leader, Issam Sartawi, who was assassinated in Portugal Sunday.

Asked whether he was prepared to recognise Israel as a state, Mr. Arafat said: "I am still homeless. Before asking me this question, consider where are my rights to live as you are living, you with your passports and your homes?"

The Nordic leaders, who stressed that Israel had a right to security while the Palestinians were entitled to a homeland, said earlier Wednesday they had the impression Mr. Arafat was very close to recognising Israel.

Mr. Arafat said the Scandinavians, with their tradition of resisting oppression, had a big role to play in the Middle East. But he did not elaborate.

Commentators said the PLO

leader had strengthened his own prestige by the visit while the Nordic leaders had demonstrated their avowed support for moderate forces in the Middle East.

A large pro-Palestinian procession snaked through central Stockholm Wednesday evening. There have also been Jewish demonstrations but no serious incidents.

For security reasons, it is still unclear when Mr. Arafat will leave Sweden.

Mr. Arafat said: "We will do our best to continue these joint talks with the Jordanian government and for your information a special envoy is now in Amman continuing talks."

Jordan abandoned talks with the PLO last Sunday on Mr. Reagan's plan, which envisages Palestinian self-rule in Israeli-occupied Arab territory in association with Jordan.



The coffin of Dr. Issam Sartawi, the Palestinian leader who was assassinated in Portugal last Sunday is taken to the cemetery after prayers at the University Mosque Wednesday. (Photo by Yousef Al-Ahlan)

Sartawi laid to final rest

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The body of Issam Sartawi, the leading PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) official who was assassinated last Sunday during the Socialist International congress in Portugal, was buried in Amman Wednesday.

Over 1,000 mourners attended the quiet but emotional burial in the Muslim cemetery in Umm Al Hiran on the outskirts of Amman, after prayers at the University Mosque.

Dr. Sartawi's body was flown Portugal Tuesday afternoon, and laid in the University Hospital until being transferred to the mosque.

After the brief and simple service, the body, in a coffin draped with the Palestinian flag, was carried from the mosque by soldiers of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA). The funeral cortege, followed by a procession of over 200 official and private cars, wound slowly round the outskirts of the

city on the 20-kilometre journey to Dr. Sartawi's final resting place.

The funeral service was attended by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid, deputising for His Majesty King Hussein, and by Minister for Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim, representing the government.

The PLO was represented by Executive Council members Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) and Brig.-Gen. Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya, as well as senior officials from the Amman office.

Dr. Sartawi's widow, Widat, and four sisters wept as prayers were said over the coffin. Mrs. Widat Sartawi arrived in Amman Tuesday from her home in Paris.

Among the mourners was France's ambassador to Jordan Mr. Jacques Chartier de Sedouy, who told journalists Dr. Sartawi had been a "force for dialogue and moderation" in the Arab World.

It was revealed Wednesday that French security authorities have been cooperating with the PLO to combat the activities of the Abu Nidal extremist group, which has

claimed responsibility for Dr. Sartawi's murder.

Dr. Sartawi's sister Sahab told journalists Tuesday that the PLO had already passed a death sentence on Abu Nidal, and that her brother had told the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers last February that the sentence should be carried out as soon as a Palestinian state was established.

She said Abu Nidal had always tried to destroy the achievements her brother had made for the Palestinian cause, and that the Abu Nidal group was serving the aims of the Mossad (Israeli intelligence).

Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor paid their condolences to the Sartawi family on Monday. After Wednesday's funeral, Mr. Bahjat Al Talhout, adviser to the King and former speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, said that King Hussein had been speaking for all Jordanians when he described Dr. Sartawi as a friend and as "an honest struggler who stood by his principles."

Salem says talks will resume

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem, returning from talks with King Hussein, said Wednesday he hoped differences between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would soon be overcome.

"I believe we are passing now through a stage of re-assessment of some positions, and I hope we

will very soon reach a solution to this impasse in which the Palestinians and Jordan found themselves," Mr. Salem told reporters.

"We believe that the credibility of the U.S. is on test now and the laboratory is Lebanon," he added before going to deliver a message from King Hussein to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

Quakers convey condolences to Sartawi family

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of American writers and personalities and the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) have sent cables of condolences to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Mrs. Widat Sartawi on the death of Dr. Issam Sartawi, who was assassinated in Portugal last Sunday.

The cables were delivered through the Amman-based Quaker Middle East representatives Ronald Young and Carol Jensen.

One cable, sent to Mrs. Sartawi, was signed by Rabbi Balfour Brickner, Hermann Eilts, George Anne Geyer, Inge Hoffmann, Judith Kipper, Philip Klatzniek, Anthony Lewis, Everett Mendelsohn, Gail Pressberg, Harold Saunders and Merle Thorpe.

The cable of American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), which was signed by the director of Middle East programmes, Gail Pressberg and AFSC Chairman Stephen Cary, said: "On behalf of the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) we express our sadness, shock and anger at the tragic assassination of Issam Sartawi. We hail Dr. Sartawi as a man of great courage and vision. The voices of rejection of peace win the day when men like Dr. Sartawi are assassinated but they cannot silence the ideas nor extinguish the vision he and his colleagues espoused. Our organisation was proud to have nominated him for the 1982 Nobel Prize for peace in January 1983. We have urged the U.S. government to give renewed life and vigour to his vision by immediately undertaking direct discussions with the PLO."

We offer our heartfelt condolences and have asked Ronald Young and Carol Jensen to represent our organisation at Dr. Sartawi's funeral."

Mr. Young also delivered a cable from the editor of New Outlook magazine Simha and Sarah Flapan.

Ahmad Dajani optimistic on PLO-Jordan dialogue

By Lima Nabil Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A leading Palestinian leader believes that Jordanian-Palestinian relations will witness a spectacular progress despite Jordan's decision of last Sunday to abandon talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Ahmad Sidki Al Dajani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, told the Jordan Times that the suspension of the talks allows for a "pause" which is necessary for both sides to assess their progress.

"The talks have no doubt helped us to have a better understanding of our positions and this understanding will help us to further strengthen our mutual relations," Dr. Dajani said.

Although he said he would consider serving as the PLO link with the Socialist International, Mr. Dajani added that he felt he was "poorly placed" to take over from

Dr. Sartawi, a leading moderate adviser to Mr. Arafat, as the link between the PLO and Israeli opposition leaders.

He said his openness to Israeli-PLO dialogue was perceived by most Israelis as "treason."

The opposition Israeli Labour party was among Socialist movements from the non-Communist world represented at the congress in the southern Portuguese resort of Albufeira.

Arab sources in Paris said Mr. Dajani might soon be given permanent status at the PLO mission in Paris, where he now serves in a temporary capacity as information officer.

Israeli may take over as PLO link with Socialist International

PARIS (R) — Franco-Israeli journalist Ilan Halevy has said he would be prepared to serve as a permanent contact between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Socialist International group.

Mr. Halevy made the remark Wednesday on French Television after being named by PLO leader Yasser Arafat to replace murdered PLO official Issam Sartawi at the closing session of a Socialist International congress in Portugal last weekend.

Though he said he would consider serving as the PLO link with the Socialist International, Mr. Halevy added that he felt he was "poorly placed" to take over from

Israeli urges separate peace talks

WASHINGTON (R) — A senior Israeli official called on the United States Wednesday to give strong backing for talks on a separate peace between Jordan and Israel rather than seeking an Arab consensus that includes "extremist" views. Dan Meridor, Israeli cabinet secretary, told reporters during a visit here that Jordan as well as Lebanon should follow the example of late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and enter peace talks with Israel. He said the United States was making a mistake in supporting Jordan's demand for backing from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and other Arab governments before joining the peace process begun at Camp David in 1978. Mr. Meridor claimed that, with the exception of Egypt, the only Arab consensus is "the basic hostility to Israel," and demanding a unity of views "gives the veto power to the extremists."

Jordan informs U.S. of reasons behind shelving PLO talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has informed the United States of the reasons behind the suspension of Jordanian-Palestinian talks over joint political action in efforts for Middle East peace based on President Reagan's proposals and other political initiatives, according to Al-Rai newspaper Wednesday.

Quoting informed sources, the paper said that His Majesty King Hussein had sent a message to President Reagan which outlined Jordan's views with regard to the American proposals. The message cited Washington's failure so far to recognise the PLO as one of the signs that impeded Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, the paper said.

Furthermore, the paper said, the American stand vis-a-vis current negotiations over Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and the

U.S. "indecision" on that issue as well as Washington's "failure" to exercise sufficient pressure on Israel had influenced the Jordanian-Palestinian talks.

The message made it clear that other nations besides the U.S. should take part in the peace-making process if a just and durable Middle East settlement is to be achieved, the paper added.

Israel's "intransigence and its persistence to continue building settlements and swallow up Arab territory, driving away its lawful owners by force as well as its violations of religious places in the occupied Arab territories had their negative influence on current efforts aimed at achieving peace and discouraged the Palestinians from going ahead with the peaceful solution based on the Reagan proposals," the paper quoted the message as saying.

Extraordinary Arab summit postponed

RABAT (R) — An extraordinary Arab summit meeting due to take place in Morocco next weekend has been postponed until the beginning of May, Moroccan government sources said Wednesday.

The summit was called by King Hassan 15 days ago to work out fresh Arab Middle East peace initiatives.

A senior Moroccan government official said the summit, due to take place in Fez, had been put off for two or three weeks following the decision last Sunday by Jordan to abandon talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

He told Reuters the postponement was to ensure the success of the conference.

In Morocco's view the summit was to endorse any agreement between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and King Hussein for joint political action for peace in the Middle East or to help them reach one.

But Jordan's announcement

last Sunday that it had proved impossible to form a joint approach with the PLO so far and that Jordan would not act unilaterally cast doubts on whether an early summit would produce a joint Arab approach, the official said.

Senior Arab diplomatic sources said President Reagan had asked King Hassan of Morocco to mediate between the PLO and Jordan following Sunday's announcement.

Mr. Reagan called last September for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan—a call rejected outright by PLO hardliners and Israel's government.

The PLO's parliament-in-exile which met in Algiers in February refused to consider the Reagan plan, saying it ignores the PLO and Palestinian aspirations to statehood.

The sources said Mr. Arafat was expected in Morocco Wednesday from Sweden.

Habib heads U.S. team as Lebanon talks resume

KHALDE, Lebanon (R) — U.S. special envoy Philip Habib Wednesday joined the three-sided talks on an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, making his first appearance at a Lebanese session of the long-running negotiations.

Mr. Habib arrived from Israel for a round of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. talks which were officially described as informal.

Asked if he expected any quick progress in the talks Mr. Habib, who Tuesday took over as temporary head of the U.S. delegation, said "you will see."

He said he would meet Lebanese President Amin Gemayel later Wednesday.

Lebanese and Israeli officials said they discussed a draft agreement provided by Lebanon on terms for an Israeli withdrawal.

Earlier in Israel he met Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Moshe Arens.

Israeli spokesman Avi Pazner said agreement was near on a number of points but he said it

would be foolish to predict how long the talks would last.

After over three months of negotiations the main sticking point is Israel's demand for "security" arrangements in southern Lebanon before it withdraws its army, which invaded Lebanon in June last year.

Mr. Pazner said Israeli delegation chief David Kimche reiterated that renegade Lebanese Maj. Saad Haddad should be given a "responsible position" in the "security" of southern Lebanon.

The Beirut government views Maj. Haddad, whose border militia has been supported by the Israelis for years, as a deserter.

Mr. Pazner described Mr. Habib's intervention in the talks Wednesday as positive but did not say what role he had played.

Mr. Habib is responsible for Washington's overall Middle East peace effort and has previously stayed away from the low-level talks.

Police release Lech Walesa after 5 hours of questioning

GDANSK, Poland (R) — Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity trade union, was released after being held for nearly five hours by police Wednesday for questioning over his meeting with underground union activists at the weekend.

An official communique read on Polish state radio said he was questioned about the secret meeting with the provisional coordinating committee (TKK) and later released.

Mr. Walesa was seen returning to his home in the Zaspas suburb of Gdansk.

Mr. Walesa, who returned home in the same red saloon car in which he was taken away by three policemen early in the afternoon,

told waiting reporters he had refused to answer questions about the meeting with the TKK.

"I refused to reply to their questions, referring to the (Jerzy) Urban statement that anyone has the right to contact anyone else," he said.

Government spokesman Jerzy Urban told a press conference Tuesday there was no law against people meeting each other unless it was shown there was criminal intent.

Mr. Walesa also said he would make no further comment to the press until a meeting with reporters he has already scheduled for next Tuesday.

"I have a headache. I am too tired to say more," he said.

HOME NEWS

French military chief returns home Tuesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Head of the French Joint Chiefs of Staff Jeannot Lacaze and his delegation left for home Tuesday evening at the end of an official visit to Jordan that lasted several days.

During the visit Lt.-Gen. Lacaze was received by His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan and as well as held talks with senior Jordanian officials. The delegation, which came here as guests of the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, toured a number of army positions and archaeological sites in Jordan.

Their last function was a reception which Lt.-Gen. Lacaze gave on board the French naval ship Kersaint at Aqaba. The Jordanian Armed Forces inspector general and other senior Jordanian army officers plus French Ambassador to Jordan Jacques-Alain de Sedouy attended the reception.

The Kersaint, which is attached to the French fleet in the Indian Ocean, docked at Aqaba on April 10 and will be leaving the port Thursday.

Man savagely kills sister

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 32-year-old man, identified by the police only as S.R., stabbed his sister to death Tuesday for reasons connected with her "moral conduct," according to a report by Al Ra'i newspaper Wednesday.

The report said that the man killed his 45-year-old sister in the Jabal Al Nuzha district of Amman by repeatedly stabbing her with a dagger in the neck and chest causing her immediate death. The man then gave himself up to the police and confessed his crime. The paper said.

Meanwhile, Amman police announced Wednesday the capture of the murderer of 60-year-old Abdul Karim Suleiman Ismail whose body was discovered in the Wadi Surur district in Amman last February.

The murderer was identified as 26-year-old Abdul Sattar Al Khatib from Nablus who lives in Wadi Surur who, police said, admitted doing the killing during an attempt to rob the man. The murderer told the police that he had taken part in several thefts and robberies with a gang who lived with him in his house.

Abdul Sattar used to lure his victims to his house or to outlying places where he threatened them with death if they refused to give him money or other valuables. This happened to Abdul Karim who refused to give him money to Abdul Sattar despite the threats. This however prompted the murderer to hit his victim several times on the head with a brick that led to his death. The murderer said that he then found only 300 fils in his victim's pockets.

Bu Taleb, Tal confer

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Minister Sa'id Al Tal conferred in his office Wednesday with the visiting Secretary-General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation Mr. Abdul Hadi Bu Taleb.

The visitor invited Dr. Tal to attend the organisation's general conference which is due to open in Casablanca, Morocco on June 7. Mr. Bu Taleb also briefed the minister on the organisation's future plans and past achievements and also on the forthcoming conference agenda.

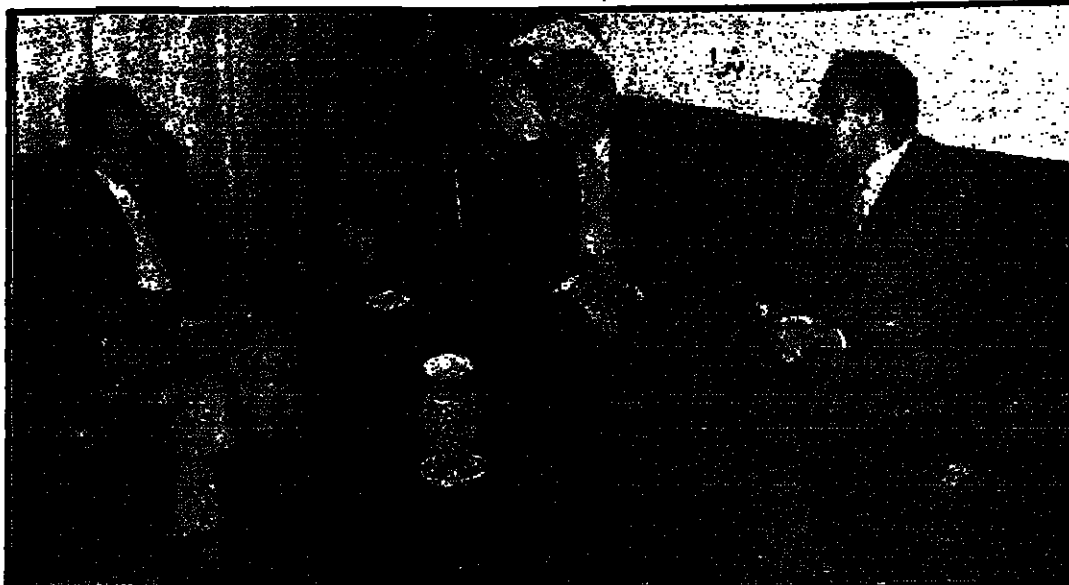
The meeting was attended by Dr. Abdul Latif Arabiyat, the Ministry of Education secretary-general, and other senior aides.

Air transport meeting set for Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day conference on "Regionalism in International Air Transportation: Cooperation and Competition" will be held on April 19 and 20 in Amman according to a press release circulated by Alia. The Royal Jordanian Airline.

The participants in the conference, which is organised by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) under the auspices of Alia, will include aviation experts and representatives from related industrial and commercial enterprises from all the Arab countries, Africa, Europe and the United States.

During the conference, the topics to be discussed will include the exchange of operating experiences and new innovations for the future.



Minister of Education Dr. Sa'id Al Tal (far left) Wednesday holds discussions with Abdul Hadi Bu Taleb (centre), secretary-general of the Islamic

Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation with Secretary-General of the Education Ministry Abdul Latif Arabiyat in attendance (Petra photo)

Building quality seminar concludes

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day symposium on the quality control of building materials ended in Amman Wednesday. The delegates, who discussed 22 working papers dealing with the production and employment of building materials in construction,

issued recommendations that included a call to Arab countries to pay more attention to the quality of materials used in building operations. The recommendations also called for the inclusion of the subject of quality control in school and higher educational textbooks, the organisation of training courses to help raise technical and administrative standards in the construction business, and coordination among Arab countries in the manufacture and control of the quality of building materials depending on local materials and Arab expertise.

The symposium recommended that Arab states adopt standardised specifications concerning building materials and demanded that all imported building materials should meet national standards. The symposium, held at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman, was organised by the Royal Scientific Society's Building Research Centre.

Jerash gets direct dialling

AMMAN (Petra) — The northern town of Jerash has been connected to the national telephone network enabling subscribers to call direct to any part of the country, the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) announced Wednesday.

It said callers who wish to phone Jerash should first dial the prefix 04 to get a direct line.

JPA to elect new board

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian Pharmacists Association members will elect a new board Friday.

A report in Al Ra'i newspaper Wednesday said that three candidates will contest the post of president. They are Samih Darwazah, Adnan Al Kilani and Ghaleb Sabarini.

In total 26 candidates are contesting the vacant board seats, the paper said.

French posts minister to arrive Friday

AMMAN (J.T.) — French Posts and Telecommunications Minister Louis Mexandeau is due here Friday for a visit to Jordan expected to last several days.

During the visit, the minister, who will be accompanied by a five member delegation and three journalists, will hold talks with Minister of Communications Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben and Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director-General Mohammad Shahed Ismail on cooperation over telecommunication affairs.

Both sides will also explore the possibility of a new French loan to Jordan to finance a number of TCC projects particularly in rural areas. France is currently helping Jordan to carry out a number of telecommunication projects as negotiated under the 1979 joint agreement between the two countries.

Training course on juvenile crime ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A ceremony was held in Amman Wednesday for the graduation of a batch of 12 police officers who completed a training course on the handling of juvenile offenders.

During the two-week course, the officers heard lectures on Jordanian juvenile law, the underlying causes of delinquency, social defence against crime and other related topics. The officers were also taken on a tour of several police posts.

Nabulsi leaves to attend cooperative conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Director-General Hassan Nabulsi left for Riyadh Wednesday to take part in a conference organised by Arab Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives which will open Saturday.

On the conference's agenda is a number of issues related to the constituent individual Arab agricultural cooperatives and seeks to facilitate an exchange of expertise between them. Mr. Nabulsi is being accompanied to the conference by a senior aide.

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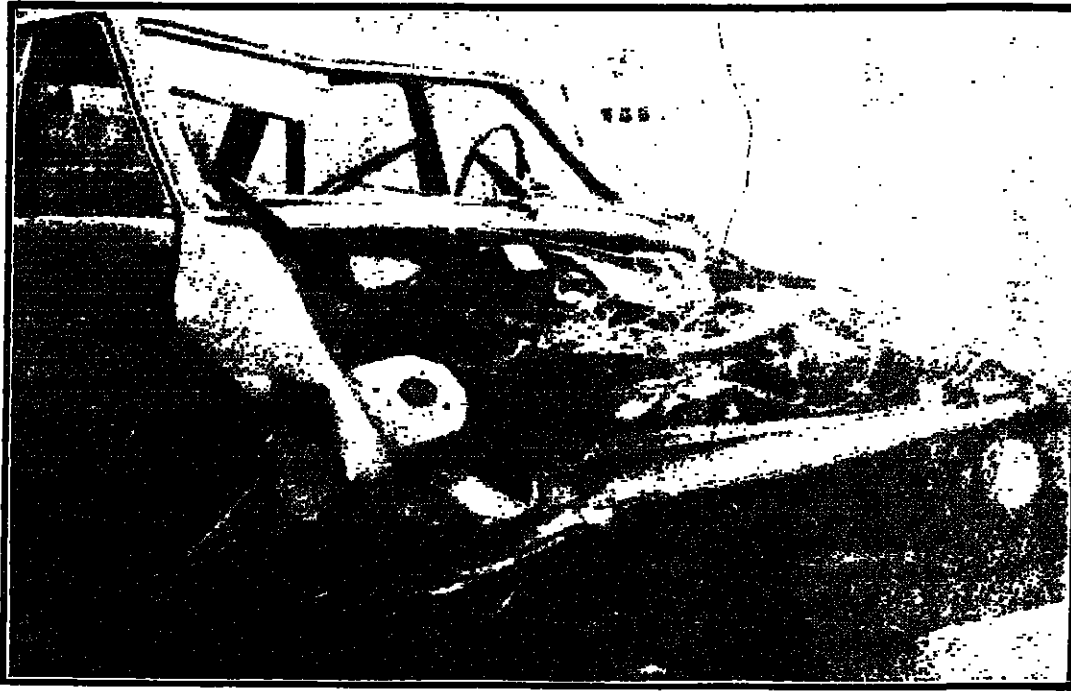
HOME NEWS

Car smash
occurs
near Salt

AMMAN (J.T.) — A car accident near Salt Tuesday resulted in the injury of the driver and heavy damage to the car.

A report in Al Rai newspaper Wednesday said that driver Ibrahim Abdullah lost control of the vehicle while driving at great speed. The car went off the road and hit the side of an embankment near a school.

The driver was rushed to Al Hussein government hospital in Salt for treatment, the paper said.



The wreckage of the car after it had hit an embankment Tuesday just outside Salt (Petra photo)

Hassan urges Muslim, Arab
cooperation to stop Zionists

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday briefed delegates to the second annual conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation) on Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories and its expansionist plans that entail the Judaisation of the territory and the eviction of its lawful Arab owners.

Prince Hassan, who used slides to illustrate more fully his detailed briefing, underlined the importance of close inter-Arab and Muslim cooperation to stop the Zionist's expansionist plans. Prince Hassan also stressed the need

to undertake legal studies on the status of land ownership in the occupied Arab territories in general and Jerusalem in particular. The conference committees discussed, at their Wednesday session held under the chairmanship

of Prince Hassan a proposed working plan dealing with the attitude of Muslims towards non-Muslims. Several recommendations were made in this respect and these will go forward for general discussion at Thursday's meeting, according to a conference spokesman.

Committee delegates Wednesday also endorsed resolutions and recommendations for issuing an Islamic encyclopaedia. These recommendations will be formally discussed and endorsed at Thursday's general plenary session, the spokesman said.

Tuesday evening Prince Hassan

held a banquet in honour of the delegates. In a speech during the dinner Prince Hassan warned of the consequences of the Zionist settlement programme in the occupied Arab territories and called for the mobilisation of all Arab and Muslim nations to thwart these objectives.

The banquet, held at Al Hussein Youth City, was attended by cabinet members, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar, Court Minister Amer Khammash, senior officials and heads of Arab diplomatic missions in Amman.

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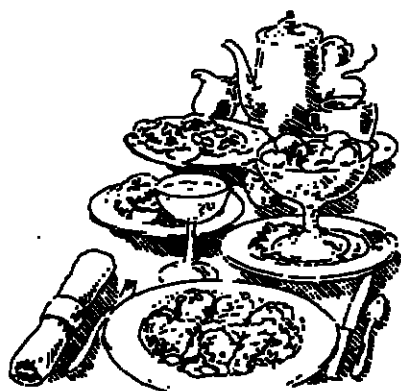
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Nose dive into the sand

THE U.S. will not allow peace efforts in the Middle East to collapse, because, if they do, Washington stands to lose the most; and it is not difficult to know why. On the other hand, only an extraordinary U.S. diplomatic effort, which according to most politicians and observers appears unlikely, could restore momentum to the U.S. peace drive in this region. So, what is up and coming? Continued deadlock and frustration or hope and progress?

Clearly, Jordan has done everything it could to bring the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) into the peace process that was initiated and led by the U.S. and that promised of a new era of peace and stability in the Middle East. But now, under the present circumstances, there seems to be no point in continuing the effort within a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue on joint action or otherwise unless something is made to change first.

If it is not a change of the American pattern in handling Middle East policies, nobody knows for sure what this something is. Perhaps a clear and bigger Soviet role in the current search for peace is what is needed now to move things forward; perhaps it is the revitalisation of the Franco-Egyptian plan for a mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO under U.N. auspices that may be the remedy to the present situation and which could introduce an element of hope in efforts for a just and lasting settlement. And, of course, there is the likelihood of an outbreak of new hostilities between the Arabs and Israel, even the eruption of a new war, that may be the sad alternative to stalemate and stagnation in this volatile part of the world.

If Washington will not allow its peace efforts to collapse and is not thinking of expending an extraordinary diplomatic effort to move things forward at this critical stage, the U.S. must not expect miracles to save its interests and the well-being of its friends in the region. By the same token, it must not bury its head in the sand and hope that others will not disturb its illusory peace with their plans or schemes.

We all know that there are many things which Washington can and must do before there is real hope of real progress towards peace. Offering the Arabs to nose-dive into an Israeli sand is definitely not the best of them. The real culprit is Israel and its extremist practices against the Arabs and our homeland.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Statement stresses close links

Tuesday's statement to NCC and Senate members by Prime Minister Mudar Badran represents Jordan's unalterable position on national and pan-Arab positions. The Prime Minister's statement underlined Jordan's keenness to maintain the close links between the Jordanian and Palestinian people, their unity in supporting their kinsmen in the occupied territories, and above all, Jordan's strong support for the PLO.

The statement reaffirmed the fact that these features of Jordan's policy will not be affected by the suspension of the Jordanian-PLO talks on a Middle East peace settlement. The statement was a reaffirmation of the strong Jordanian-Palestinian relationship and, as expected, it drew support from the whole Jordanian country. This statement also refuted all rumours spread around by certain Arab regimes and foreign correspondents about a deterioration in relations between the PLO and Jordan.

The suspension of Jordanian-Palestinian talks does not mean a total break down in relations nor that Jordan intends to stop its support for the Arab population under Israeli rule; neither will it affect Jordanian national unity.

Al Dustour: Washington's simple choice

U.S. envoy Philip Habib's participation in the current U.S.-Israeli-Lebanese talks reflects Washington's realisation of how dangerous Israel is in fact is. As the talks continue in their vicious circle, the Israelis continue to pursue their illegal practices of building settlements on the occupied Arab land and stifling the population's economic and social life. Israel is gradually swallowing up Arab territory and bringing about a de facto annexation.

It seems that the U.S. has now realised that the Israeli diplomatic manoeuvres will lead to grave dangers and more future disasters, so it has dispatched its senior envoy to try to put things right. If the U.S. fails to stem Israel's actions, it will have to live with being regarded as an overt supporter of Israel's settlement programme and this would deal a devastating blow to its credibility in the Arab World.

President Reagan Tuesday was quoted as saying that those who condone tyrannical actions cannot be regarded as peace loving. We believe that Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its Nuzi-like atrocities must be classified as tyrannical actions. Therefore the U.S. has a solemn responsibility to manifest its love for peace and its keenness to establish stability in the Middle East by forcing Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon as well as abandoning its expansionism on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Sawt Al Shaab: No substantive change

Jordan is firmly committed to a joint Arab plan of action aimed at both reaching a just solution to the Palestine problem and safeguarding the Palestinian people's rights. It is also committed to continued support and assistance to the Arab population in the occupied Arab land, since Jordan's support for the Arab peoples' steadfastness is regarded as being part of Jordan's own defence. Jordan, more than any other Arab state, is concerned with confronting Israel's expansionist aims because the expulsion of Arabs from their homeland directly affect Jordan's security and future as much as it affects the Palestinian people and their cause. Therefore any measure which boosts the country's strength should be regarded as serving Jordanians and Palestinians alike since it is bound to stem Israel's expansionism.

The recent communiqué which described the course of the Jordanian-PLO talks by no means indicates a change in the special Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, since this relationship constitutes a cornerstone of the country's national policies. The suspension of the Jordanian-PLO talks reflects a difference of views on the political tactics needed to solve the Middle East issue, but it also proves Jordan's respect for the independence of Palestinian policies.

NATO allies seek stricter nuclear arms checks

By Sidney Weiland
Reuter

LONDON — NATO allies are insisting on stringent measures to prevent cheating in any U.S.-Soviet agreement that may be reached to limit medium-range nuclear missiles. Verification has been a key issue since negotiations on European-based weapons began 16 months ago, but officials say tighter controls are now more vital than originally envisaged. This is because the U.S. has lowered its negotiating goals and is ready to accept a partial agreement that could leave several hundred missiles in place on both sides.

President Reagan's earlier offer of a "zero option" — a total ban on U.S. and Soviet land-based medium-range weapons — would have been easier to police because there would have been no missiles in this category at all, officials say. Ideally, the U.S. and its European allies want on-site inspection procedures allowing them access to

Soviet launching sites to ensure agreed limits are observed.

The West has sought for nearly 18 months to pin down how far Moscow is prepared to go in accepting verification checks.

The probe began when the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev hinted in late 1981 that the Kremlin might be ready to give way on its long-standing opposition to on-site inspection. Since then, there have been other — and for the West, tantalising — Soviet statements suggesting a policy change.

In January, the Communist Warsaw Pact said arms agreements should provide for proper policing measures, "including, when necessary, international procedures." But a lengthy declaration issued in Prague stayed silent on what was meant. In February, the Soviet Union agreed to open talks with the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency in May on the inspection of Moscow's peaceful nuclear power plants.

Also in February, Soviet negotiators held out the vague prospect of on-site policing for a treaty to ban all nuclear tests, under certain conditions. Last year, Moscow offered a similar concession on a convention to outlaw chemical weapons. But Western arms experts say they have failed in persistent attempts to get Soviet negotiators in Geneva and Vienna to talk seriously about the tangled verification problem.

No hurry

"The Russians have shown no hurry to get into detailed discussions," a senior NATO official said. Verification is a key Western requirement in two sets of American-Soviet negotiations in Geneva, on the European missiles and in separate talks on strategic nuclear weapons.

The West has also proposed anti-cheating procedures in negotiations in Vienna on European troop levels and in a 40-nation committee on disarmament in

Geneva, which is discussing both nuclear tests and chemical weapons. Officials say the crunch may come in midsummer when the chemical talks enter a crucial stage, or later this year if progress is made in negotiating a partial reduction of missiles.

When Reagan offered an "interim solution" in the missile talks on March 30, the proposal was coupled with a demand for "effective measures for verification". The offer effectively pigeonholed the total ban foreseen in the zero option. Arms experts believe formidable policing problems will be faced if only partial cuts are negotiated.

This would involve scaling down about 250 Soviet SS-20s already deployed, and a reduction in the total of 372 U.S. Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles due for siting in Western Europe. Some U.S. officials have suggested a possible deal that would leave missiles with a total of 300 warheads on each side. Such partial deployments would call for the strictest meth-

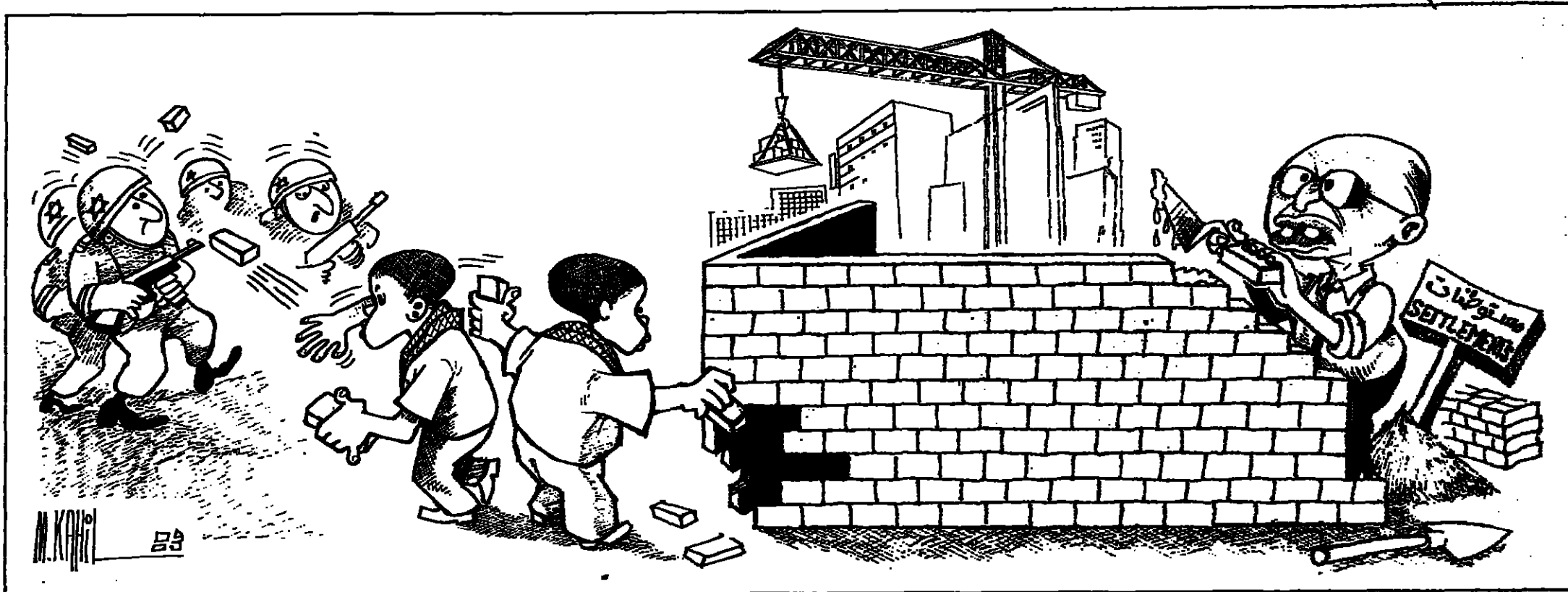
ods of verification to ensure compliance, especially to guard against the Soviet Union shifting the highly mobile SS-20s from Europe to Siberia, the Western experts say.

U.S.-Soviet agreements such as the 1972 and 1979 strategic arms (SALT) treaties depended exclusively on "national technical means" of verification, basically the use of spy satellites and X-ray and infra-red sensors to guard against cheating. But experts say satellites, while producing highly accurate photographs, cannot see into factories where new weapons may be developed secretly, and would probably fail to spot whether missiles are fitted with a re-loading capability. Only on-site inspection can ensure watertight compliance, the experts insist.

A less reliable method but a possible compromise might be to get both sides to fit distinguishing marks on certain missiles to help satellite identification. This is known as a "cooperative" method

of detection. The root of the problem is that both the U.S. and the Soviet Union need to have sufficient confidence to believe that agreements they reach cannot be circumvented, experts say. This confidence is now lacking in the icy and suspicious relationship between the Kremlin and the Reagan administration.

Washington is now weighing whether to level charges that the Soviet Union breached the SALT-2 treaty by carrying out tests of two new missiles last winter. The treaty allows each country to test and deploy only one new inter-continental missile. Moscow had rejected a U.S. request to rework verification procedures in two treaties on nuclear testing signed in 1974 and 1976, which the U.S. believes may also have been violated. The U.S. also suspects Moscow may have broken SALT-2 rules which ban use of telemetric codes if they are designed to confuse the other side about the true nature of weapons tests.



Social discontent rises in Latin America

By Francois Raitberger
Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — Falling living standards, soaring inflation and mounting unemployment in the debt-ridden countries of South America have unleashed a wave of social discontent marked by riots, strikes, looting and bomb attacks.

Rioters clamoured for jobs in Sao Paulo. In Quito, they battled police in a demonstration over prices and pay. In Chile, they defied a harsh military government to protest against unemployment and austerity measures.

Several people were killed, dozens were injured and hundreds arrested in the riots. Over the past month there were general strikes in Argentina, Peru and Ecuador.

The region's foreign debt rose to nearly \$300 billion last year, and several countries, including the biggest debtors Brazil, Mexico and Argentina, had to renegotiate payments and turn to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for help.

In the Brazilian city of Sao Paulo this week, hundreds of angry jobless came close to enacting the nightmare of all Latin American wealthy — a raid from the slums on the rich districts.

The two-day spree of violence and looting was the country's

worst civil unrest in three years. It came as surprise to many analysts who often wonder at the lack of social tension in Brazil despite the huge gap between the poor masses and the few very rich.

But several days earlier, the archbishop of Sao Paulo, Paulo Evaristo Arns, warned that social misery could unleash an uncontrollable explosion in big Brazilian cities. "In desperation, men can do anything," he said.

The military-led government, struggling against an estimated \$90 billion foreign debt, has drawn up an austerity plan which includes wages control, a 20 per cent cut in public sector investment and an inevitable increase in unemployment.

Brazil needs to create more than one million jobs a year to keep pace with population growth. February unemployment figures for Sao Paulo showed 7.5 per cent of the work force were jobless, but economists say the figure is probably higher.

In Chile, hundreds of angry demonstrators defied General Augusto Pinochet's iron rule last month in the most violent protest since he seized power in a bloody coup 10 years ago. At the same time, a string of bomb attacks signalled a possible return of guerrilla violence.

Chile's five-year economic

boom came to an abrupt halt last year with a 14 per cent fall in gross domestic product.

Unemployment has now reached 20 per cent, with another 12 per cent of the work force employed in state labour schemes for salaries ranging from \$27 to \$54 a month.

The Catholic church, which runs soup kitchens in poor areas, has described the government's austerity policies as inhuman and leaders from banned political parties have called for Gen. Pinochet's dismissal and a return to democracy.

He has altered his monetarist policies, but has said he will not relax his tight political control.

In Argentina, trade unions took advantage of political relaxations which followed last year's defeat in the Falklands (Malvinas) islands and have recently staged two 24-hour general strikes.

Inflation in the country is now running well above 200 per cent and the peso is worth seven times less than it was a year ago.

Unemployment is estimated at over one million of the 12 million work force, but the government fears a reactivation of the economy would fuel inflation and break targets agreed with the IMF in connection with its efforts to renegotiate 1983 repayments of

Brazil's \$38.7 billion debt.

In Peru, where austerity measures and spiralling inflation are fast sapping the popularity of the civilian government, four people were killed in a general strike last month.

A five-year decline in already poor living standards is accelerating as inflation approaches 100 per cent. The government, facing a \$11.5 billion debt largely inherited from its military predecessors, has cut public investment and food subsidies.

Politicians point to the resurgence of malaria and tuberculosis as a worrying sign of impoverishment. Union officials say the daily ration of calories is down to 1,500, well below the 2,500 recommended by the World Food Programme.

They do not rule out that people could turn to violence in desperation. In the Andes Mountains, guerrilla-related violence has claimed 400 lives so far this year.

In neighbouring Ecuador, hit by a decrease in oil exports and prices, an austerity package last month triggered off demonstrations in which one person was killed and at least 50 injured.

The minimum monthly wage is \$107, while the government admits a family of five needs \$116 for food alone. Unions have staged a

48-hour general strike and threaten an indefinite stoppage if the measures are not repealed.

In Bolivia, rioters protesting against an increase in transport fares went on the rampage this week in the eastern city of Santa Cruz which was recently devastated by floods.

Inflation in Bolivia came close to 300 per cent last year and unemployment is nearly 20 per cent. But the main trade union is threatening warily because of what it sees as coup threats against the fragile left-wing government which six months ago ended 17 years of virtually uninterrupted military rule.

Colombia is better off with nine per cent unemployment, inflation under 25 per cent and a foreign debt of \$9 billion.

For Venezuela a period of oil-fed prosperity is ending. Large-scale layoffs have put up to 100,000 people out of work over the past month and inflation is likely to double to 20 per cent this year.

Analysts say an IMF austerity programme in the offing in connection with the renegotiation of a \$25 billion foreign debt will change the lifestyle of free-spending Venezuelans. But they say it still has the highest per capita income in Latin America and may continue to avoid social trouble.

Mexico, with 70 million people and a foreign debt of over \$80 billion, has been worse hit. A recession last year reversed 43 years of uninterrupted growth and is expected to deepen this year.

Inflation running at 113 per cent and an 81 per cent devaluation over the past year have meant hardship for most. Real wages have dropped by about a quarter and nearly one million people have lost their jobs.

A \$2.7 billion job-creating programme could be largely cancelled by a further drop in the price of crude oil exports.

Devaluation has even hit the middle class. Executives now have to cancel trips abroad, drop plans to build new houses and buy new cars, and take their children out of the best schools.

Despite the increasing misery of the poor, analysts see a rise in crime as the only sign of social tension.

They say the 54-year rule of the institutional revolutionary party and its control of the unions have been a key factor in keeping the lid on potential discontent and maintaining Mexico's legendary political stability.

But a leading industrialist warned that the social fabric of the country could start coming apart if the economy does not begin to grow within the next two years.

Where base the MX?

By Robert Trautman
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's latest plan for basing the controversial MX missile, sent to Congress just days ago, is already in trouble and has raised fears among defence officials that the weapon will never be built.

Members who were briefed on the plan secretly on Thursday said the proposal calls for placing 100 of the 10-warhead MX missiles in existing Minuteman missile silos, then replacing them after about five years with a smaller, mobile missile.

Reagan is formally to disclose his MX plan early this week.

The congressmen were briefed by retired General Brent Scowcroft, chairman of a bipartisan commission named by Reagan to study MX deployment after Congress last year rejected the second of two basing modes he had recommended.

The immediate reaction of some congressmen was negative. Defence officials fear that if Congress rejects this latest plan,

the highly accurate MX will never be built and deployed.

Both the Reagan administration and that of former President Jimmy Carter have argued that the missile is essential to counter new and more accurate Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs).

Scowcroft, a former national security adviser to President Ford, had tried to find a base for the long-homeless missile that would be acceptable both to the military and to Congress.

President Carter in 1979 proposed a system of shuttling 200 MX missiles among 4,600 concrete shelters to confuse Soviet missile targets, a plan rejected by Reagan when he took office.

President Reagan's first recommendation, late in 1981 — similar to the new plan recommended by the commission — was to put 40 missiles in specially-hardened Minuteman silos as a temporary measure until a permanent basing mode was found.

Congress rejected that on the ground it did not want to spend money on anything but a permanent base for the missile.

Under Reagan's second plan last year, called "dense pack", 100 MXs were to be based so closely together that, in theory, attacking Soviet warheads would destroy one another as they exploded, leaving some U.S. missiles intact to retaliate.

Congress turned that down as too exotic and hypothetical.

The MX commission had hoped the new plan had enough in it to satisfy congressmen who like the big MX, as well as those who feel the best U.S. defence would be a small, mobile missile.

Defence officials concede that, with the increased accuracy of new Soviet missile, it is all but impossible to make a U.S. fixed land-based missile invulnerable to attack, closing the "window of vulnerability" as Reagan had promised in 1980.

Pentagon officials said a new missile was needed now to modernise U.S. forces and match Soviet silo-busting capability, and under the Scowcroft plan new technology would be used to make the Minuteman silos more resistant to a nuclear explosion.



This way, they said, the MX could serve until the smaller "Midgetman" missile was developed and deployed.

Air force officials said the 21.5 metre MX would be tested this summer or autumn and be ready to deploy in 1986.

Senator Mark Andrews, a North Dakota Republican, said he was told "Midgetman" missiles would be designed to be loaded on trucks and moved on U.S. highways, confusing Soviet targets.

Until this missile was ready, he added, putting the 10-warhead

MX into silos that had held single or triple warhead Minuteman would only tempt Moscow into launching a first strike by giving it more warheads to destroy.

Andrews said he was told the MX would cost \$14 billion for five years of service or less.

SPORTS

Australians, Dutch seem sure of hockey semifinal berths

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Australia and the Netherlands remained unbeaten in the 12-nation Women's Hockey World Cup here Wednesday and both appeared certain of playing in next week's semifinals.

The Dutch wore down a defensive United States and scored the only goal 15 minutes into the second half while the Australians grabbed an equaliser 10 minutes from time against a determined Scotland.

With the other six-nation qualifying group taking a rest Wednesday, the Dutch and Australians moved into the lead in their pool with five points each from three games, two points ahead of the U.S.

The top-seeded Dutch girls, who have won two of the last three world tournaments, broke a frustrating deadlock when their seasoned international Fieke Boe-

khurst rammed home a penalty corner.

The Australians, who have looked the most impressive in the tournament's first four days, stormed back in a rain-hit second half to force a 1-1 draw against the Scots through Sharon Buchanan after a dazzling solo run by Sandra Piani.

The Scots, who had given a hint of their quality with a draw against the Netherlands Tuesday, could have won and will hope to keep their faint hopes of a semifinal place alive Thursday when they take on Wales.

The Welsh drew 1-1 with India in the third game Wednesday, which keeps them both at the bottom of the table and all but buries their hopes of cup glory.

The Indians, the only Asian team in the tournament, must feel particularly disappointed after going down by the odd-goal to both Australia and the Netherlands in their opening matches.

The focus switches Thursday to the other wide-open qualifying pool where rankings have lost all meaning.

Sixth-seeded New Zealand, who top the table with three points from two matches, take on England in a vital game for the third seeds who failed to put away a host of chances in draws against Argentina and Canada.

The second-seeded West Germans, beaten by the Argentines in their opening match, bounced back to beat the Soviet Union and should overcome Canada to stay in the reckoning for a semifinal berth.

Liverpool on brink of title

LONDON (R) — English first division soccer leaders Liverpool are one win away from landing the league title for the 14th time.

A goalless draw at Coventry Tuesday night means that, barring a miracle finish by main challengers Manchester United, Liverpool will clinch the championship if they beat Southampton away on Saturday.

Liverpool did not have it all their way at Coventry where they

have now won only once in 10 visits.

The best chances fell to the home team, for whom striker Steve Whitton squandered two sharp first half opportunities by hurried finishing.

Luton, 19th in the 22-team division, won 3-1 to go four points clear of the danger zone—the last three go down—but the result plunged bottom team Birmingham into deeper trouble.

Why doesn't he play more tournaments in the U.S.? Ballesteros was asked in August.

"Ask a PGA player why he doesn't play more foreign tournaments," was the reply from the personable Spaniard, whose dynamic play in Augusta evoked memories of Palmer's charges during his prime.

Part of Ballesteros' charm lies in his modesty and the denigrating of his own skills.

Asked about his chances in this year's U.S. Open, he said, again with a smile: "I would like to win the U.S. Open, but I don't have a chance. I don't hit my drive very straight."

There's some truth to that statement, since Ballesteros swings

from the heels and at times sprays his drives. At the Augusta National, with its broad fairways and absence of rough, an aggressive, skilful scrambler like the Spaniard can survive such errant drives.

But at the Open, whose courses are characterised by thick rough, it can mean bogey after bogey.

"Seve should win here (at Augusta) many times," Tom Watson said. "He's a long hitter and a very good touch player."

Even Ballesteros agreed with that assessment. "No question I have the game for the course," said the big hitter with the deft putting touch.

Watson and a number of other American pros concede that Ballesteros can be a boon for the U.S. tour. "Seve's aggressive and flamboyant like Arnold Palmer," Watson said. "He makes as many mistakes as good shots. But when he's hot, he shoots the lights out."

Ballesteros' appeal was demonstrated in the way he played the 18th hole on the final day at Augusta.

Leading by four strokes, he faced a difficult 20-foot downhill lie at the 18th. Three conservative putts would still have ensured him a victory.

But that is not Ballesteros' style. Instead of putting down, he chipped, apparently never considering that a bad shot could have left him 20 feet beyond the hole on the opposite side.

Now, with two Masters' titles and a British Open crown, Ballesteros has won three major championships at the age of 26. And in the opinion of his peers more major titles are certain to follow.

Still, some pros consider Ballesteros a "lucky" golfer, a description usually applied to a journeyman golfer who wins a major title—Jack Fleck in the U.S. Open three decades ago, for example.

What the U.S. tour is left with, then, are the Watsons, Floyds, Irwins, Kites, Ferguses, Morgans and Crenshaws -- all of them excellent technicians, but incapable of exciting the American sports public.

Enter Ballesteros, who at the age of 26 now reigns as the Masters Champion for the second time in four years.

Sad to say for American golf fans, though, Ballesteros has no intention of becoming a regular on the U.S. tour.

"One day I will come over here and play regularly and see how good I really am," Ballesteros said with a grin following his four-stroke victory (the same margin as in 1980) in the Masters.

Until then, Ballesteros said, he will continue to play the international circuit, although he will return to the States in June to play in the U.S. Open at Oakmont in Pittsburgh and will play a total of 10 events in the U.S. this year.

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WORLD

Chicago gets 1st black mayor

CHICAGO (R) — Harold Washington was elected as Chicago's first black mayor early Wednesday, pledging to revitalize the city and govern it with fairness and justice for all, including the thousands of whites who voted against him.

"History was made tonight," the 60-year-old Democratic Congressman told thousands of cheering supporters.

"Today Chicago has seen the bright day break for this city and perhaps for the entire country. The whole nation is watching as Chicago has sent a powerful message," he said.

The vote had produced "a new Democratic coalition" of blacks, whites, hispanics, Jews and gentiles, Washington said.

The Republican candidate, white lawyer Bernard Epton, refused to concede defeat after what was a long and sometimes racially bitter campaign, but he left his headquarters for this night looking glum.

With votes from 99 per cent of the city's precincts counted, Washington had 656,727 to Epton's



Harold Washington

617,159.

Election officials said 82 per cent of the city's 1.6 million registered voters turned out, a record for a Chicago civic election.

94 per cent blacks

Washington won almost total support from the city's 600,000 registered black voters. One unofficial estimate put his share of the vote in predominantly black wards at 94 per cent.

Epton, as expected, did well in ethnic white neighbourhoods where voters deserted the Democratic Party by the hundreds of thousands out of fear that Washington as mayor could mean more integration and declining property values.

But the overall turn-out was not as heavy in those areas and Washington also retained some votes in them as well as in the affluent, liberal precincts along Chicago's "gold coast" on the shores of Lake Michigan.

Those votes totalled more than those captured by Epton in black areas, and the difference appeared to provide the margin of victory.

Washington's election was also a victory for the Democratic Party nationally which had poured money into his campaign out of fear that a loss could weaken black voter support in the 1984 presidential election.

He had won his party's nomination for mayor in a Feb. 22 primary election in which he ousted incumbent Jane Byrne.

Election officials described the contest as an honest one, even by

Chicago standards, with only a handful of arrests and relatively few complaints of voting irregularities.

As a precautionary measure, however, federal officials took voting material into custody after the polls closed.

In addition, city police deployed as poll watchers were ordered to deliver a copy of the final vote count tape in each polling place to the U.S. attorney's office.

Among the bitter elements of the campaign was a series of anonymous leaflets that made fun of Washington's race and suggested he had once been arrested for child molesting -- and allegation that police said was untrue.

Epton had attacked Washington's record, especially the fact that he once served a brief jail term for failing to file federal income taxes and once had his law licence suspended for five years for taking small amounts of money from clients and not rendering services.

In his acceptance speech, Washington said: "Chicago is one city. We must work as one people."

Thatcher may seek veto power over British-based U.S. nuclear missiles

WASHINGTON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain is likely to seek the power to veto the launching of any British-based U.S. cruise missiles when she meets President Reagan next month, a British parliamentarian said.

Julian Critchley, a ruling Conservative Party M.P. who serves on a nuclear weapons committee of the North Atlantic Assembly, NATO's parliamentary arm, told reporters Mrs. Thatcher had informed him she was likely to seek the veto when she meets the president at the Williamsburg economic summit.

Her probable approach, he said, would be to ask Reagan to make public agreements between earlier British and U.S. governments in which Britain retained technical control of U.S. military bases on British soil.

Thatcher would ask Reagan to add a clause to the agreements, reached when Harry Truman was president in the late 1940s and early 1950s, stating that Britain maintained joint control over the deployment and launching of any U.S. cruise nuclear missiles deployed in Britain.

But one possible drawback was the likelihood that the other four European nations that have agreed to take the new weapons --

Italy, West Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands -- would request a similar concession from Reagan, Critchley said.

This would embarrass Washington, lead to the impression that the European allies did not trust Reagan with nuclear weapons and give the Soviet Union an opportunity to further divide the alliance by demanding that the Europeans exercise their veto.

Washington's position is that it would allow joint control of the new weapons provided that the European nations paid their share of their cost. Under this so-called "dual key" approach, in each nation where the missiles were deployed, military officers from the nation would be issued launch keys.

For a weapon to be launched, a U.S. officer and a European officer would each have to turn a launch key.

He added that Britain was stretched too thin financially to afford what the American dual key proposal might cost. He said Thatcher is much more likely to seek a cheaper way.

If Washington agreed to this, however, it could not realistically deny similar controls on the other four European nations that have agreed to the deployment, he said.

Adelman's chances improve

WASHINGTON (R) — Prospects for Senate confirmation of Thursday of controversial arms control nominee Kenneth Adelman improved as senators began debating his appointment.

Opponents said Vice President George Bush was lobbying to win approval of Adelman and that the latest count of senators had shifted to 47-43 in favour of his confirmation.

Massachusetts Democrat Paul Tsongas said the administration "is putting on its full court press," a basketball term meaning an all-out effort to win.

Tsongas said opponents might

counter with an effort to send the nomination back to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee preventing any further Senate action on it.

"That would give Mr. Adelman an opportunity to withdraw and the president to send us a nominee we could accept," Tsongas told reporters.

He and other opponents said in opening debate Tuesday that Adelman lacked both the experience and commitment to arms control necessary to be confirmed as director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA).

Spain protests British naval visit to Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR (R) — British warships, shadowed by Spanish vessels, anchored at the Spanish-claimed rock colony of Gibraltar Wednesday and set off a storm of protest from Madrid.

Spain denounced the visit as a flagrant violation of its territorial waters and, while pledging not to use force, said it would take all steps to guarantee its rights.

Two Spanish frigates and a destroyer could be seen in the Bay of Algeiras watching the 12 British

warships, led by the aircraft carrier *Invincible*, as they anchored off Gibraltar.

Britain said the five-day visit was routine and followed annual exercises in the Atlantic. The British embassy informed the Spanish authorities in advance, a spokeswoman said.

However, Madrid said the visit was inopportune in view of the delicate stage of negotiations over the future of the colony, captured from Spain in 1704 and reclaimed

ever since.

Britain's Ambassador to Spain, Sir Richard Parsons, was twice called to the foreign ministry in Madrid to hear official protests.

Spanish officials, who last protested about a similar visit in 1973 when 24 British warships anchored off Gibraltar, said the visit smacked of British imperialism in the wake of the Falklands War last year.

The carrier *Invincible* spearheaded the British force that

recaptured the islands from Argentina. Spanish commentators have taken particular exception to the fact that Prince Andrew, a helicopter pilot and second son of Queen Elizabeth II, is on board.

The Spanish press called the visit jingoistic and said it was a negative reply to Spanish efforts to press forward negotiations on Gibraltar that are virtually stalemated. Newspapers accused British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of electioneering.

Salvador officer arrested

SAN SALVADOR (R) — A Salvadorean army officer has been arrested in connection with a massacre of at least 18 peasant farmers in the province of Sonsonate last February, U.S. embassy officials said Tuesday.

An embassy spokesman said the arrest of Capt. Salvador Figueroa Morales had been confirmed by a member of the Salvadorean armed forces.

The army has made no comment on the reported arrest.

Defence Minister Gen. Jose Guillermo Garcia told Reuters that the army was investigating the involvement of an officer in the incident and that if there was enough evidence he would be handed over to a military judge.

Rebels claim success

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Rebels in El Salvador claimed successes Tuesday as a new initiative to bring peace to Central America

developed. In El Salvador, the leftist insurgent Radio Venceremos said guerrillas struck throughout the country to avenge one of their commanders, Melida Anaya Montes, murdered in Managua last week.

In a new peace initiative following a weekend of hectic diplomatic activity, the foreign ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama began a tour of Central America.

Their talks in Panama Monday resulted in the foreign ministers of Honduras and Nicaragua agreeing to discuss differences which have brought the two countries close to war. Panama's Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado said.

Amado said the tour, the latest of at least 18 unsuccessful peace initiatives since 1980, was being conducted without the U.S. or the Soviet Union but had been welcomed by Washington.

Rhine threatens Bonn

BONN (R) — Three hundred troops were put on alert in Bonn for flood protection and possible evacuation duties Wednesday as the rising Rhine River threatened more areas of the capital, city officials said.

In nearby Cologne, the Rhine burst into the old city centre early Wednesday morning and was continuing to rise by two centimetres (almost one inch) an hour, but emergency services said the situation was under control.

Bonn fire officials said the Rhine was expected to rise by 10 centimetres this morning, threatening low-lying areas of Bad Godesberg where many foreign embassies are located.

A city official in the capital said he hoped the situation would improve this afternoon now that heavy rains had abated.

"Things are not dramatic yet but they are bad enough," he added.

He said the Moselle River and its tributaries, which flow into the Rhine, were falling Wednesday after reaching a 35-year high near the city of Trier Tuesday.

Officials were moved from basement offices in the riverside parliament building in Bonn this morning.

12 die in France

PARIS (R) — Twelve people have died in floods in northern France but river levels are falling, French radio said.

There was no immediate official confirmation of the death toll, but an interior ministry official said the floods had caused serious damage and some casualties.

Galtieri ordered to face military 'court of honour'

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Gen. Leopoldo Galtieri, who ordered Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands a year ago, must face a "court of honour" which could seal his final fall in disgrace, military sources said.

Galtieri was driven from his home under military custody late Tuesday night to start serving 60 days in detention at an army garrison near Buenos Aires.

Army commander Cristino Nicolaides imposed the sentence, the maximum possible without a military trial, after Galtieri spoke out about the Falklands War with Britain in three interviews with the Buenos Aires daily Clarin, the sources said.

Galtieri, who as president and army commander in chief ordered the invasion of April 2, strongly criticised the performance of Argentina's military governor of the

islands, Gen. Mario Benjamin Menendez.

He was also critical of three other army generals who played a key role in ousting him as president shortly after British forces recaptured the islands on June 14.

Nicolaides also ordered Galtieri to appear before a court of honour, skipping the preliminary stage of a commission of honour which would have purely investigative powers, the sources said.

Galtieri's public image has deteriorated considerably in recent months and he is frequently portrayed in newspaper cartoons as a drunkard with a glass of whisky at his lips.

He was conspicuously absent from a military ceremony in Buenos Aires last week to mark the first anniversary of the occupation of the Falklands.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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IT PAYS TO BREAK HEARTS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A J 10 5 2
♥ 10 8 6 3
♦ A 7
♣ 10 7

WEST EAST
♠ 7 ♠ 4 3
♥ K 9 5 2 ♥ Q J
♦ Q J 9 6 ♦ K 10 5 2
♣ A 9 8 ♣ 6 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 9 8 6
♥ A 7 4
♦ 8 3
♣ K J 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

Some end plays cannot be avoided. But you don't always have to be ensnared in declarer's web. Preventive measures are possible.

North's decision to jump to four spades on a hand containing two aces is unusual. However, no better bid suggests itself -- the hand is too weak for a jump raise, but too strong for a single raise, and no descriptive waiting bid is available. The jump to game was a practical solution.

West led the queen of diamonds. Declarer realized that, even if he guessed the club position correctly, he was in danger of losing four tricks -- two in hearts and one in each minor. The only way out was to engineer an end play.

West could not overtake East's heart honor, because that would set up dummy's ten. But when East won the heart, he was forced to lead back a minor suit. No matter which he chose, declarer would stuff his remaining heart while ruffing on the table.

We attach no blame to West for failing to find the heart shift at trick two -- the culprit is East. East should have realized the danger of his heart holding and dummy's two minor-suit doubletons. He could see that there was no future in continuing with a diamond, so at trick one he should have overtaken his partner's queen of diamonds with the king and shifted to the queen of hearts. The defense has now gained a tempo, and declarer can no longer set up an end play. Eventually he will be forced to concede two heart tricks.



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Jabal Amman- Seventh Circle

will be open daily for the public between
9:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. starting April 15,
1983

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cyclone Veena devastates Tahiti

PAPEETE (R) — One person died, dozens were injured and thousands were left homeless when cyclone Veena hit the South Pacific island of Tahiti and its sister island Moorea, local government sources said Wednesday.

The cyclone moved south towards the Austral Islands Wednesday after raging for 12 hours in Tahiti, uprooting trees, tearing roofs from houses and blacking out the island. Five to six thousand Tahitians were reported homeless after the storm. A further 2,000 were reported without shelter on Moorea. Initial estimates put the damage at 150 million francs (\$21 million). A woman died Tuesday when she was hit by power lines brought down by winds of 150 kph.

Marcos' daughter returns to grace

MANILA (R) — Imelda Marcos, wife of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos, said Tuesday they now accepted the marriage of their eldest daughter, Imee, to divorced sportsman Tommy Manotoc. Mrs. Marcos also announced that her youngest daughter Irene, 23, would marry businessman Gregory Araneta on June 11 in Sarat, the northern Philippines hometown of President Marcos. Mrs. Marcos' remarks about her children were issued by the presidential palace which announced that Imee Marcos Manotoc gave birth to the couple's first child on April 9 in Honolulu. Speaking about Imee's marriage for the first time, Mrs. Marcos, 57, "We recognise the divorce, we recognise the marriage because we recognise the laws of the United States."

Robber faints inside bank

SWANSEA, Massachusetts (R) — Bungling bank robber Paul Bernier, 32, fainted when the woman cashier he held up at gunpoint said she had no money. Police, called to the bank by the cashier while Bernier lay unconscious on the floor, said he also locked his getaway car with the keys inside. Bernier was charged with assault during attempted armed robbery.

Canadian confesses to 1971 murder

BILLINGS, Montana (R) — A Canadian told a judge Tuesday he had confessed an unsolved 11-year-old murder because it had jinxed his life, turning it into a "living hell," Kenneth Chisholm, 51, said that after he killed a Billings bartender in December 1971, his family was plagued by weird tragedies. His wife and son died, his sister tried to commit suicide, he was involved in a car crash and had to undergo two open heart operations -- always in the month of December. Chisholm, from Vancouver, British Columbia, surrendered to police in Lethbridge, Alberta, on Feb. 4 and returned to Billings to plead guilty to murder and armed robbery charges. Sentencing was set for May 12. Montana has a death penalty but the prosecution has recommended a light sentence.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin

RIVER BUNT

By Richard Silverstein

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19 X 19, by Neil McCarthy

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